

Colin J. Lonsdale

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Colin Lonsdale is a radio astronomer who has worked at the Haystack Observatory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for 32 years, and for the past decade has led the Observatory as Director.

He specializes in radio interferometric techniques using a variety of national and international facilities, and has published extensively on a wide variety of astronomy research topics. These include the jets and lobes of extragalactic radio sources, supernovae and hydroxyl masers in star forming galaxies, the relationship between star formation and active galactic nuclei, and masers in the extended atmospheres of young stars. More recently he has worked on solar and heliospheric studies at low radio frequencies.

He has also been heavily engaged in the development of new techniques and instruments in radio astronomy, including very long baseline interferometry (VLBI) and multiple, novel low frequency imaging arrays.

He has been involved in the Event Horizon Telescope project since its inception, and much of the technical development for the project was conducted at Haystack under NSF funding during his tenure as Observatory Director. He serves on the governing Board of the international EHT Collaboration as vice-Chair and member of the Board Executive Group.

Professional Preparation:

St. Andrews Univ., Scotland	Applied Mathematics & Astronomy	BSc. Hons., 1978
Nuffield Radio Astronomy Labs, England	Radio Astronomy	Ph.D., Fall 1981
Nuffield Radio Astronomy Lab, England	Radio Astronomy Postdoc Fellow	1981 - 1983

Appointments:

2008-present	Director, MIT Haystack Observatory
2006-2007	Assistant Director, MIT Haystack Observatory
2001-present	Principal Research Scientist, MIT Haystack Observatory
1986-2001	Research Scientist, MIT Haystack Observatory
1983-1986	Research Associate at the Pennsylvania State University
1981-1983	Postdoctoral Fellow at the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratories